

Message Text

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12

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 PA-03 PRS-01

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 /062 W

----- 011181

O R 050934Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2422

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

UNCLAS PHNOM PENH 8027

USINFO ALSO FOR VOA NEWSROOM

USINFO ALSO FOR IEA

BANGKOK FOR HEDGES

BANGKOK AND SAIGON FOR VOA CORRESPONDENTS

STATE S/PRS AND EA/P

CAMBODIAN SITUATIONER

1. IN THE ROUTE ONE FIGHTING SOUTHEAST OF PHNOM PENH, KHMER GOVERNMENT TROOPS SUNDAY OPENED THE ROAD EAST OF DEY ETH WHICH HAD BEEN CUT TWO DAYS EARLIER. CLOSER TO PHNOM PENH, FANK REPORTS THAT A TWO-KILOMETER STRETCH OF ROUTE ONE APPROXIMATELY 8 TO 10 KILOMETERS FROM THE CAPITAL REMAINS IN ENEMY HANDS. U.S. AIR SUPPORT IS BEING EMPLOYED TO HELP DISLODGE THE ENEMY.

2. RELIABLE SOURCES REPORT THAT FOUR JOURNALISTS WERE WOUNDED, NONE SERIOUSLY, IN THE ROUTE ONE FIGHTING NEAR PHNOM PENH SUNDAY. A CAMBODIAN WORKING FOR AMERICAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION RECEIVED A BULLET WOUND IN THE LEG WHILE A CBS CAMERAMAN, REPORTEDLY JAPANESE, A KHMER STRINGER FOR UPI AND AN UNIDENTIFIED FRENCH JOURNALIST ALL WERE HIT BY SHELL FRAGMENTS.

3. NORTHWEST OF PHNOM PENH, THE ENEMY INITIATED A SERIES OF ATTACKS AGAINST FANK POSITIONS AT KAP SROV ON SATURDAY NIGHT. KAP SROV, 9 KILOMETERS FROM THE CAPITAL, IS ON THE SOUTHERN

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EDGE OF THE KHMER 7TH DIVISION AREA.

4. SKOUN, AT THE JUNCTION OF ROUTES 6 AND 7, REMAINS CUT OFF FROM THE WEST, NORTH AND EAST. ENEMY MORTARS HIT TE CITY LATE SATURDAY AFTERNOON AND EARLY SATURDAY EVENING WOUNDING THREE SOLJERS AND ONE CIVILIAN.

5. AND SOUTHWEST OF THE CAPITAL, THE TOWN OF SRAANG CAME UNDER ENEMY ATTACK EARLY SUNDAY WITH NO REPORT YET ON CASUALTIES.

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